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Interesting Correspondence.

LINCOLN Co., N. C., June 16, 1863.

Excellency, Gov. Z. B. Vance:

SIR:—It is with sorrow I communicate to you this morning the contents of this letter, but I see no other alternative; it is the only way for me ever to gain the affection of my friends. Sir, I have brought on myself disgrace and the contempt of my friends as long as I live, by absenting myself from my company without leave. I got home the 12th of this month. My old gray-headed father met me at the gate with joy—happy to see me. After passing the usual compliments, he asked me if I was on furlough. I told him I was not. The old man broke into tears and told me I could not stay with him, that I must go and join my regiment. I replied to him, I intended to do so; I did not come home to stay. He then told me if I would go back he would not have me arrested, but if not he certainly would. I told him I wanted some clothes and a pair of shoes. He gave me a pair of shoes, and told me he intended to send me such things as I needed, and asked me why I didn't stay and wait for a furlough? I replied I hadn't been home in so long; I wanted to see them all once more. He replied, "I had much rather never to have seen you than for you to come home in that way." He asked me if I hadn't seen the Governor's proclamation? I told him I had not. He then got the paper. "See here—read this, my son, this teaches you what fruits desertion brings on." "Now," says he you are ruined—undone forever. This sort of conduct will never do; you must return, and that immediately. I promised him I would. "Go," says he and stand by your colors until you fall or until your country is free. Governor, this is a lesson taught me I never can forget. I am actually sorry I done so. I will promise you I never will do so any more. I beg your pardon. I want to return to my regiment, if you please. Give me a pass or something of the kind to show, in order that I can get back without being arrested. Pardon me for my transgression; I find the way of the transgressor is hard. I give you my word and honor as a man that I never will do so any more. This is the first time, and it is the last. I will go and join my fellow soldiers and remain with them until the war ends, let that be sooner or later, if I live. If you will pardon me, I will be more than a thousand times obliged, and feel myself under innumerable obligations to you for so doing.—If not, please send me a passport or something of the kind, so that I can get back to my regiment. I don't want to go under guard if I can help it; if I can't I will go, anyhow, and abide by the consequences, be they what they may. I have served two years, and will serve as many more if necessary. I did not think of the evil; if I had have known once what I now do, I would have remained there until now. I hope, Governor, you will grant me this, forgive me for so doing. The God that rules Heaven and earth knows my heart. I pray He may forgive me. I must close by saying, I remain your most obedient servant.

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Executive Department
Raleigh, June 22d, 1863.

Private ———, 16th N. C. T.,
Cottage Home, N. C.

SIR:—Your letter asking for a pardon and a pass to return to your regiment, has been received. Enclosed I send you a pass, and will give you when you report to me in this City, a letter to Gen. Pender, which I have no doubt will secure you exemption from punishment. I am sure that there is nothing that a brave officer would not grant to the son of such a father. I desire you to present him my regards, and to say to him that I would feel honored to shake his hand. I feel refreshed in the contemplation of such unalloyed patriotism and such Roman virtue; and I thank God that such men can be found in North Carolina. And while they are, I feel it impossible to despair

of our ultimate success. Would to God that every father in the land would receive his erring son in like manner. How many noble soldiers, who have been induced by hardships and disappointments to take this fatal step, would be redeemed from unavailing regret and sorrow and disgrace which the remembrance of all their glorious fights cannot diminish. How gladdened would be the hearts of our Generals, and how despairing those of our foes, could it be known that even the ties of nature were as nothing, and the strong bonds of filial affection but as dust in the balance, to a people who have dedicated their sons to slaughter and their homes to desolation for their country's independence.

Take your father's advice. You could not follow the counsels of one more glorious and patriotic, and return to your brave comrades as gallant a regiment as ever stepped upon a field of battle, and show by your good conduct that you desire your error to be forgotten, and that you are worthy of your lineage.

Very truly yours,

Z. B. VANCE.

Private Property Respected.

The announcement made by the Yankee journals, that the Confederate forces in Pennsylvania, had respected private property and paid for what they wanted, according to one journal, in "greenbacks," and to another in Confederate notes, has created great surprise and no little dissatisfaction.

The feeling of revenge, and the belief that if the enemy be made to feel some of the horrors of war which they have so remorselessly inflicted upon our people, that a desire for peace will be stirred up in the breast of the people of Pennsylvania that will greatly accelerate the desired object, had induced the hope that devastation would be visited throughout the country of Pennsylvania as a great and wholesome measure of necessary retaliation. That it has not been done by the advance by no means argues that it will not be fully and effectually accomplished when the main body of our army shall have firmly established itself upon the enemy's territory. To have begun retaliation by the advance would have separated the command so much that the reconnaissances would have been impossible, and as a means of good discipline as well as efficient service, and not from respect for private property, the officer commanding the advance has doubtless restrained the animosities of his soldiers, and thus, private property has been spared, not respected.

General Jenkins, said to command the advance, has himself felt the heavy hand of the enemy's infamous conduct. His beautiful residence has been despoiled and destroyed, his property overrun, ruined and wasted. Every motive for revenge and retaliation must operate upon him, and if he has restrained his soldiers, we feel satisfied that he can give a reason that will justify his conduct to all his fellow citizens.—Rich. Enquirer.

Shipment of Cotton to the North.

The allegation made in some of our journals to the effect that cotton was being extensively shipped by way of Nassau and Havana to the Yankee States, has elicited an investigation by the Confederate Government. It will be seen by the following reports of agents directed to look into this matter, that very little cotton indeed finds its way to the North, and that no reproach attaches to our merchants and planters in this connection. From Nassau the report states:

Straggling lots of cotton, not to any notable extent, are occasionally brought here say in parcels of 5 to 12 and 15 bales, and shipped North. These came out in sailing vessels, for the cotton by steamers invariably goes to England. At this season of the year when calms prevail, nine-tenths of the sailing vessels are bound to be captured.

From Havana, the report is equally favorable, as follows:

In relation to the sale of cotton in Havana to Northern buyers it affords me pleasure to say, such sales are of rare occurrence, and, with the exception of the cargo of the Alice, no considerable quantity of cotton has been shipped to New York, or other Northern ports. The Alice belongs to a joint stock company, and the stockholders are dissatisfied with her management by their agents—John Macaulay and Addison Cammack—and unanimously condemn their course in selling cotton to Northern buyers, and are now making an effort to get possession of this vessel and her earnings. I am, therefore, of opinion, that but little cotton will, in the future, find its way from Havana to the enemy.

I know of no collusion between any of our citizens and the enemy for the supply of cotton to the latter.—Rich. Sentinel.

The movements of the Confederate vessels at sea are beginning to attract very great attention both at the North and in Europe. 'Spite of the vigilance and espionage of the Lincoln representatives, Consular and Diplomatic, in Europe, every other day a swift clipper slips out to sea, and the next thing we know is that she is doing her part to sweep Northern commerce from the ocean. That greater progress has not been made in this work has been due to the fact of the number of our public vessels—not privateers, for the privateers have done little—but the number of our public armed vessels being so small. That difficulty is becoming rapidly removed, and the name of our cruisers will soon be "legion," at least in the minds of the excited mercantile community at the North. The N. Y. Tribune already parades the names of the Alabama, Florida, Virginia, Georgia, Southerner, Clarence, Falconer, Tacony, etc., and there will soon be more issuing from Harlepool, Liverpool, the Clyde, the Thames, and strangest and most formidable of all, from the port of Stockholm, the capital of Sweden. There will be talk among Uncle Sam's ships of going in pursuit of that fellow when he gets out, and he will get out. The parties interested know all about that.

But the richest part of it is that a vessel called the Clarence, and spoken of as a tender to the Florida, has been raking six prizes off the mouth of the Chesapeake, among the rest the clipper bark, Tacony of Philadelphia, which was forthwith transformed into a rebel cruiser, and she took to making captures off the mouth of the Delaware.

The excitement is awful, all manner of floating thing—river boat, sound boat—unsound boat, oyster boat and mud scow is immediately to be sent to sea to see if they can see any such thing at sea as that poudacious pirate, that ventureth to take prizes off the mouth of the Delaware in a Delaware built vessel, captured perhaps from some Quaker firm of many tails. The Brooklyn navy yard with its ship houses and dry-docks is to be put to sea bodily, and the wise men of Gotham are to have their bowl repaired and put in commission.

Wil. Journal.

The New York World has at last given a plain expression to its preference for the Jeff Davis government over that of Abraham Lincoln. In an article, on Thursday, it boldly says:

It can no longer be denied—it is patent to the whole world—that the superior men, morally and mentally are at the head of the wrong government and the wrong army.

To say the men who head the rebellion are morally superior to the men who administer the lawful government of the United States, means that the rebellion is no considerable crime. The adjective "wrong" applied to the government of Davis and his satellites is of course, an allusion to the locality of its sitting, Richmond not being the established capital of the nation.—Buffalo Express.

Well, we say it over again, deliberately, the superior men are at the head of the rebel government. It is the weakness, shame and curse of the Union cause that this is so; but, as we cannot deceive the whole world on that point, why try and delude one another? When the rebellion broke out all the advantages were on the Union—a regular government, the army, command of the sea, wealth, the workshops of the nation, and numbers; but the rebellion had what we unhappily lacked—a government of marked executive force, the members of which at least had conscience or wisdom enough to know that deliberate official lying would in the long run injure them. Hear what the Springfield Republican, an administration paper, says on that point:

"Is lying a vice inherent in Republican institutions, or merely incidental to Mr. Lincoln's administration? Certainly it is much safer to believe the Richmond papers and Davis' and Lee's bulletins than anything we get from Washington, or the Rappahannock."

Even Henry Ward Beecher is on record on conceding that at least one leading rebel generally was a fair and eminent Christian. It is idle for us to expect success in this war, notwithstanding our vast resources, until we have more brains and more honesty in the conduct of public affairs.—N. Y. World.

DESERTERS.—The proclamation of Gov Vance of North Carolina, in regard to deserters from the Confederate army, is having a very happy effect in bringing these skulkers to light. Militia officers of that State, acting under the order of the Governor, are arresting and delivering at this Post, large numbers of men who have left their commands without leave. From the adjacent counties of North Carolina there are almost daily arrivals of gangs of these delinquents. Dan. Register.

Railroad Fares, &c.

The following preamble and resolution was offered by Gov. Vance and adopted, at the late meeting of the Board of Internal Improvements:

WHEREAS, Owing to the greatly increased travel and transportation on our railroads during the last two years, increased expenditures have been necessary to keep them in proper repair, and the Railroad companies have been compelled thereby to raise from time to time their rates of freight and travel; and whereas, the agricultural interest of the State, which is our main reliance to support and carry on the war, may be seriously injured if no restriction or limitation is placed on these charges:

Resolved, as the opinion of this Board, That hereafter no further increase of charges should be made by any Railroad company, unless a cause for it should arise which does not now exist: and that only a sufficient sum of money should be raised by each of the companies to defray their expenses, to provide for the repairs, and renewal of their Roads, and to declare such dividends as may be reasonable in amount. And the State proxies at the meetings of companies hereafter to be held, are hereby instructed to ascertain what limitation, if any, may be necessary to effect these objects.

Post Office Contractors.

A correspondent of the Atlanta Confederacy alludes to a decision recently made, in which the General Post Office Department explains the Exemption Act in favor of mail contractors on a point in reference to which but few are correctly informed. The act excepts from the privilege of exemption contractors of less than ten miles in length and on which the mail is carried on horse. The case was that of a citizen of Chattanooga, whose bid as a mail messenger from the railroad depot to a distance less than ten miles, at an annual compensation of four dollars and fifty cents, (former compensation six hundred and fifty dollars,) was accepted by the Department. The messenger was notified by the enrolling officer that he was not entitled to exemption under the act of April 14th, 1863 and he would hold him as a conscript.

An appeal was made to the Department and a certificate of exemption was immediately forwarded, on the ground that distance is immaterial when the quantity of mail matter to be transported requires the use of a vehicle. The enrolling officer immediately yielded and the messenger is now performing services. The generality of those who read the law suppose that ten miles is the absolute minimum required to exempt contractors. A careful perusal of the act will remove this impression.

THE RECOGNITION HUMBLED.—The London correspondent of the New York Times refers to the "cheers" with which Mr. Roebuck's notice of a motion in favor of the recognition of the Confederacy was received, as an evidence of the disposition of the House. The same writer says that "public meetings will be held to influence Parliament; and the Government will find it very difficult to stem the tide." He adds:

No single event has contributed so much to the present feeling in favor of recognition as the death of the best known of the rebel Generals—Stonewall Jackson. His eulogies are in all the newspapers, his portraits in the shop windows. Had he been an English commander, the sympathy and admiration could scarcely have been more general. A public meeting has been called in Liverpool to express the general admiration for his character, and this will of course, increase sympathy for his cause.

A QUESTION.—A correspondent of the Milton Chronicle asks the question, if the Government takes one tenth of his corn for the tithe tax and one tenth of his pork after it is fattened who is to feed that one tenth part of his pork? We believe the law allows, if we are not mistaken, the owner to take first, enough of his corn to bread his family and feed his entire stock until another crop is made and then takes one-tenth of the surplus corn or wheat he has to sell. We have not the law at hand, but that is our impression of the design of the law. If we are mistaken, the question is important enough to require explanation. Advocate.

REV. R. J. GRAVES.—This gentleman, about whose treason such a fuss was made months ago, was recently taken to Richmond for trial. His case went before the Grand Jury of the Confederate Court and they found "not a true bill."—Fay. Observer.

THE HIGHEST YET.—The Jackson Mississippi has advanced its subscription to \$5 a month.